

MICHIGAN TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION **MTSC**

May 17, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present

Dr. Dan Blower, Chair
Tim Yungfer, Vice Chair
Fred Bueter
Capt. Mike Krumm
Charles Moser
Tom O'Brien
Michael Prince
Robert Ramels

Commissioners Absent

Sharon Conklin
Dave Goller
Walter Heinritzi

Guests

Lawrence Archer
Mary Lynn Fattel
Larry Fennell
MC Lt. Susan Fries
Chuck Simmons
Jill Skutar
John Wallace
Don Willcutt
Michelle Zemla

OHSP Staff

Janet Hengesbach Bawol
Spencer Simmons
Alicia Sledge

ROLL CALL

The Michigan Truck Safety Commission meeting was called to order by Dr. Dan Blower, Chair, at 9:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions were made by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **MOTION** to accept the March 14, 2017 minutes was made by Capt. Mike Krumm, and supported by Mr. Tom O'Brien. The **MOTION** carries.

STANDING REPORTS

A. Chairs Report – Dr. Dan Blower

The National Academy of Sciences Review of Compliance, Safety and Accountability report will be out soon. This report looks at the methods which FMCSA uses to identify unsafe motor carriers and to determine better ways for safety. Dr. Blower will share and discuss this report when it comes out.

Dr. Blower is concerned about the recent report on the increase in CMV fatalities in Michigan. Need to understand and address it.

B. Commissioners Perspectives

Fred Bueter – Michigan Department of State.

Mr. Bueter discussed a new program proposal underway which would require all new drivers of any age who want to acquire a driver's license to enroll in a mandatory driver education program. In the recent

past, teens are waiting until they are 18, then they can just take a written and road test and receive their license with no classroom instruction.

He briefly discussed a new contract which MDOS has signed to replace the aging Hewlett Packard Unisys mainframe computer system. They have hired a company to migrate information from the old system onto a newer, more efficient one. This is anticipated to take 4-5 years to complete.

Capt. Mike Krumm – Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, Michigan State Police. Another Motor Carrier Recruit School begins in August with approximately 15 recruits.

Bob Ramels – General Public. He had no report, but briefly discussed a program which he facilitated some years ago when he dealt with teen drivers on Michigan roads.

Mike Prince – Office of Highway Safety Planning. Mr. Prince briefly discussed the fatality and crash data just released and the different types of roads, weather, etc. which can cause CMV crashes.

OHSP has sponsored Detroit Tigers baseball this past week as a joint seatbelt campaign effort.

HB 4466 is in the legislature currently. This will have an effect on being able to have a hand held phone device while driving in Michigan.

Tom O'Brien – Michigan Community Colleges. No report.

Chuck Moser – Michigan Department of Transportation - He inquired if there is adequate training around trucks and CMVs for those learning to drive. Mr. Bueter explained that FMCSA has highly rated their program they offer. He believes there should be more classroom training however. In some cases, it comes down to the instructor and which kinds of material they want to concentrate on.

Tim Yungfer – General Public. He has no report, but is also concerned about the recent fatality report regarding CMVs.

C. Financial Report – Mr. Spencer Simmons - Office of Highway Safety Planning

Mr. Simmons reviewed the most recent financial report through April 30, 2017 including revenue and expenditure projections, UCR and carryforward monies.

D. Enforcement Grant Activity Report – MC Lt. Susan Fries – Michigan State Police. MC. Lt. Fries updated the Commissioners on their recent STET activities. They are well on their way to achieving their STET objectives by the end of the calendar year and also reported on the new Motor Carrier recruit school set to begin in August. Mr. Prince also commented that CVED has the best liquidation rates of all of the OHSP grants.

E. Education Grant Activity Report - Mr. Chuck Simmons – Michigan Center for Truck Safety. Mr. Simmons explained each objective and associated activities as some of the objectives are easier than others to achieve. He explained the activity level in some of the objectives will increase during the summer months. He also explained that with a couple of the goals, they really don't have control to the increase the activity level such as calls into the center and social media. Regarding Goal #6, DPM, they are going to explore a different way to achieve this such as redirecting their resources to increase the number of drivers trained.

PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

A,MDOT Truck Parking Pilot Project update. Mr. Colin Castle gave an update on a project which was developed in 2014 to assist truck drivers to find places to park for their mandatory breaks each day. MDOT is able to publish, in real time, availability on I-94 in pre-determined locations, places for truck drivers to know whether there is availability for their truck. MDOT has received a large grant which will allow this project to expand to other states in the Midwest region. It has been found that in some cases, truck drivers are spending up to 30 minutes trying to find a place to park. 84% of truckers are fatigued and will just park in an unsafe location, such as a shoulder of a highway while some drivers will park illegally. Since 2014, five rest stops and three private locations on I-94 have been identified for truck parking. I-75 is coming next. Some private locations have dropped out of the program as they feel they have a process which works the same or better than the MDOT program. Phase II of this project is underway. This includes construction and system reporting, etc.

ACTION ITEM

A. FY18 Budget Recommendation. Dr. Blower will meet with the MTSC Budget Committee on May 22 to establish the FY 18 Funding levels for the enforcement and education grants. He will report back on this during the July meeting.

B. Approval of the 2016-2019 MTSC Strategic Plan. Dr. Kwigizile has included comments which the commissioners had upon reviewing the last draft copy of this report. Dr. Blower likes what he is reading now and believes it is a good representation of how this report should look and read.

Mr. Yungfer made a Motion to approve the 2016-2019 MTSC Strategic Report, Mr. Ramels supported. The Motion carries.

C. Request for Funds to address the recent increased in CMV fatal accidents. MCO Fries explained reasons for this request are based on the recent report which indicates significant increases in CMV fatalities and crashes. They have two objectives with this additional funding – enforcement and a media campaign. Their intention with the enforcement piece is to conduct enforcement activities in high crash locations, and to target CMV driver violations which are most likely to result in a crash. Regarding the media piece, they want to develop a media campaign aimed at non-CMV drivers to promote passenger vehicle safety when sharing the road with CMVs. Following extensive discussion regarding the recent data and how it is collected, Mr. Ramels made a Motion to approve \$99,441 for additional overtime hours, Mr. O'Brien supported. Following roll call vote, the Motion carries.

Dr. Blower also suggested that some additional research and discussion would be helpful before the July meeting, to further understand this increase. He would also like to see the TACT program started up again.

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Blower		Krumm	Conklin
Yungfer			Goller
Bueter			Heinritzi
Moser			
O'Brien			
Prince			
Ramels			

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Skid Pad Update – Mr. Joel Gordon, DTMB Real Estate. Mr. Gordon gave an update regarding the 4 -5 sites which were being considered and the one which has been tentatively explored for environmental testing. The one being considered is on Crowner Drive next to DTMB Travel Services. This property has no topography issues, it is easy to balance, meaning little or no amount of dirt has to be brought in, and has good access to other nearby roads. DTMB will get an updated survey and soil investigation. A main utility post runs are nearby with two main highways a short distance from the property. The next steps are developing and soliciting an RFP for design. These are expensive costs but Mr. Gordon indicated that through the design process, they will have a good idea of what the future costs will be. Once the site is developed, property will continue to be managed by DTMB Real Estate. He will report back to Mr. Prince when he has updates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Moser indicated that he does not want to be considered for another term on the MTSC. His travel availability is troublesome at this juncture.

Mr. Prince explained to the Commission there are layers upon layers of decisions yet to be made regarding the skid pad project. He reminded the Commissioners that money was approved for the exploration of property and any additional associated costs to construct will need to go before the Commissioners for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the MTSC is scheduled for Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at the Center for Truck Safety.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.